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A Noticeable New Platynine (Coleoptera, Carabidae) from the Ryukyu Islands, Southwest Japan

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Abstract A new apterous platynine carabid beetle, *Ischnagonum carinigerum* gen. et sp. nov., is described from the Island of Iriomote-jima of the Ryukyu Archipelago, Southwest Japan. It is very peculiar in external morphology, and none of its close relatives have hitherto been known from Japan and its neighbouring areas.

In the late spring of 1995, the junior author came across a strange platynine carabid beetle in a forest at the eastern side of the Island of Iriomote-jima at the southern part of the Ryukyu Archipelago, Southwest Japan. It is very peculiar in external morphology, above all in its very slender body with pubescence on the head and pronotum, ciliated lateral margins of the pronotum and elytra, and sharply carinate 6th interval of each elytron. No platynine species directly related to this striking beetle has hitherto been known from Japan and its adjacent areas (cf. Csiki, 1931; Darlington, 1952; Habu, 1978; Jedlička, 1934; etc.). In this paper, therefore, we are going to propose a new genus for its reception and to describe it with illustrations. The single male specimen designated as the holotype is preserved in the collection of the Department of Zoology, National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo.

Before going further, we wish to express our sincere thanks to Dr. Shun-Ichi Uéno, Emeritus Curator of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo, for his advice and for reading the manuscript of this paper, and to Mr. Masaaki Kimura of Nago City in Okinawa for his kind support in the field works.

Ischnagonum gen. nov.

Type species: *Ischnagonum carinigerum* sp. nov.

Description. Apterous. Body very slender. Head cylindrical; eyes small though

hemispherical, prominent; postgenae evidently longer than eyes, gently convex, minutely pubescent; anterior supraorbital setae inserted at the mid-eye level, posterior ones far behind the post-eye level; mandibles relatively long; mentum tooth simple, triangular; antennae filiform, reaching the middle of elytra; surface sparsely and minutely pubescent.

Pronotum cordate, convex; lateral reflexed parts wide and irregularly punctate, though becoming narrower towards apices in anterior third; anterior marginal setae inserted at the widest level, posterior ones wanting; apical margin almost straight, finely bordered; surface sparsely and minutely pubescent, lateral margins ciliated throughout; median line deep. Elytra remarkably elongated subovate; basal border complete; scutellar striole short, lying on interval 1, punctate; striae fine, coarsely punctate, especially in striae 2–4, though the punctures become smaller towards apices, and the striae are almost smooth in apical parts; intervals flat, though the interval 1 is raised along suture, interval 6 distinctly carinate from behind basal border to apical third; disc longitudinally depressed between intervals 1 and 6.

Venter smooth, though the sternites 5–7 are very minutely punctate and pubescent in apical halves; prosternal process simple, sparsely pubescent. Legs slender; protarsi hardly dilated, though the basal three segments ventrally bear adhesive hairs in the male; tarsal segment 4 deeply emarginate at the apex, bilobed, outer lobe being longer than inner one in meso- and metatarsi; claw segment ventrally glabrous.

Ischnagonum carinigerum sp. nov.

[Japanese name: Sujidaka-yase-hiratagomimushi]

(Figs. 1–2)

Description. Length (measured from apices of mandibles to those of elytra) 9.8 mm; width 2.8 mm. Black, shiny; apical part of clypeus, labrum and mandibles light brown; femora dark brown; palpi, antennae, tibiae and tarsi yellowish brown.

Head convex; frontal furrows shallow, divergent posteriad, outer sides of the furrows longitudinally and finely rugose; frons with a pair of shallow foveoles; both clypeus and labrum weakly emarginate at apices; terminal segment of labial palpus fusiform, evidently shorter than the penultimate; antennae long, pubescent from segment 4; relative lengths of scape and segments 2–6 as follows:— 1: 0.6: 1.6: 1.7: 1.7: 1.5. Pronotum widest at apical two-fifths, 1.39 times as wide as head, 1.13 times as wide as long, 1.87 times as wide as base; lateral margins obtusely angulate at the widest part, strongly convergent anteriad, and almost straightly convergent posteriad from there, very briefly sinuate just before base, basal angles rectangular; base a little wider than apex; basal foveae small, though rather deep; basal transverse impression distinct.

Elytra widest at about middle, 1.3 times as wide as pronotum, 2.84 times as long as pronotum, 2.32 times as wide as bases, 1.93 times as long as wide; basal border curved, rectangularly joining lateral border; shoulders very obtuse, humeral borders

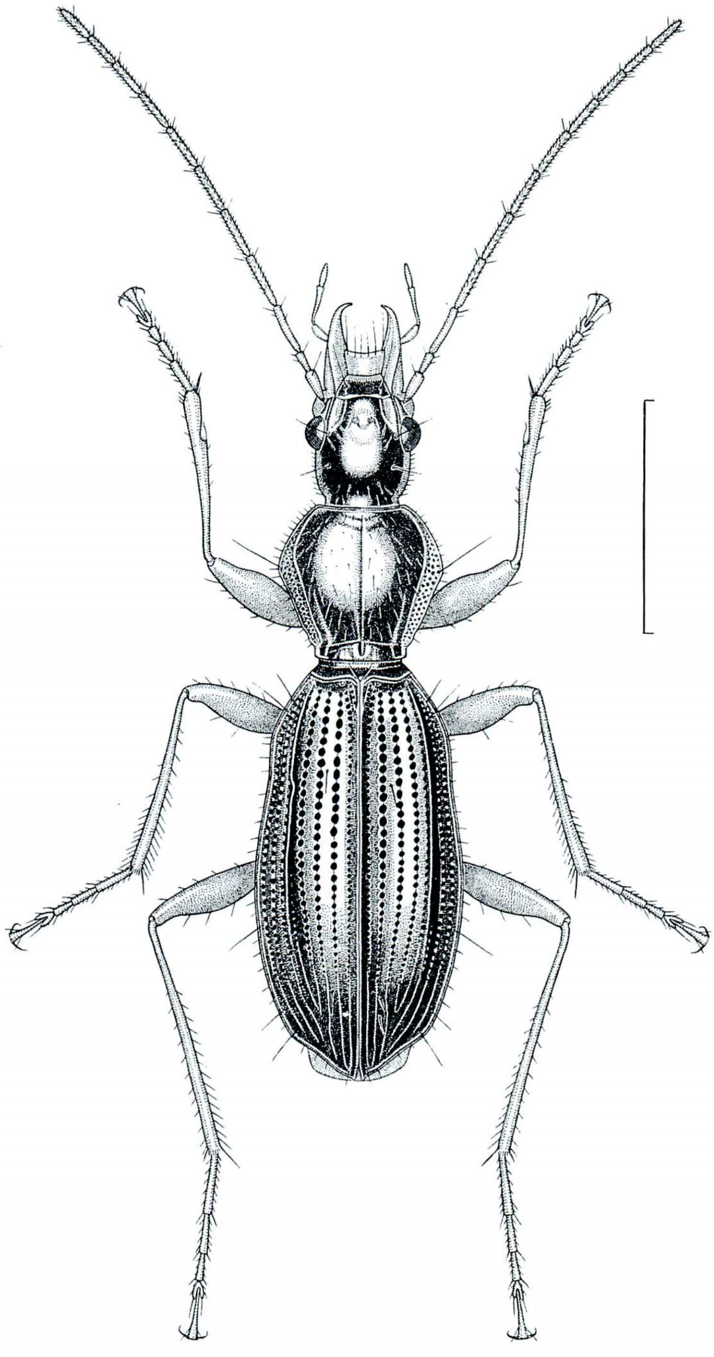


Fig. 1. *Ischnagonum carinigerum* gen. et sp. nov., ♂, from Nishi-funatsuki-gawa, Is. Iriomote-jima, Okinawa Pref. Scale 3 mm.

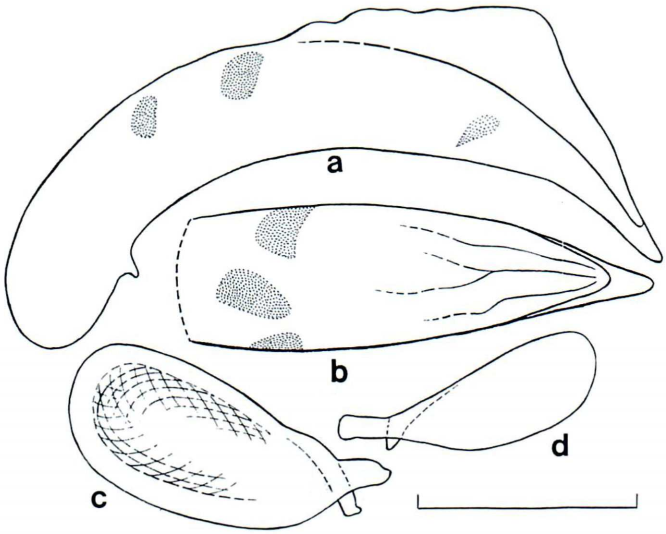


Fig. 2. Male genitalia of *Ischnagonum carinigerum* gen. et sp. nov., from Nishi-funatsuki-gawa, Is. Iriomote-jima, Okinawa Pref.; a, aedeagus, left lateral view; b, same, dorsal view, basal part omitted; c, left paramere; d, right paramere. Scale 0.5 mm.

oblique; lateral margins slightly emarginate behind shoulders, then feebly arcuate to preapical part, and rather abruptly convergent to apices; apex of each elytron denticulate; lateral margins ciliated throughout; interval 3 with two (left) or three (right) dorsal pores, anterior one at basal fourth, posterior one or two at apical fourth; microsculpture faintly visible, formed by very fine transverse meshes.

Male genitalia relatively small, simple and lightly sclerotized; aedeagus moderately arcuate, tapered towards apex in profile; apical lobe longer than wide, pointed though narrowly blunt at apex; inner sac with three melanized portions in basal third; parameres foliaceous and thin.

Female unknown.

Type specimen. Holotype: ♂, Riv. Nishi-funatsuki-gawa, Is. Iriomote-jima, Okinawa Pref., Ryukyu Islands, 24–III–1995, M. SATÔ leg.

Notes. The present new species seems very rare. The single known male specimen was found from under litter accumulated at the side of a mountain stream. Since then, we have repeatedly looked for additional specimens at the same site, but unfortunately, have been unable to find out any.

要 約

笠原須磨生・佐藤正孝：西表島産ヒラタゴミムシの特異な1新属新種．—— 沖縄県西表島の森林で発見されたスジダカヤセヒラタゴミムシ *Ischnagonum carinigerum* を記載した．本種は細長い体で，上翅の両側（第6間室）が竜骨状に高く隆起して，きわめて特異な外観を呈し，他

に類似の種をみない．渓畔の落葉層の下から採集されたもので，後翅が退化している．おそらく，地表徘徊性の西表島で特殊化したヒラタゴミムシなのであろう．

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新 刊 紹 介

「华东百山祖昆虫」吴 鸿（編）. xviii+586ページ；1995年12月発行．中国林业出版社，北京．[Insects of Baishanzu Mountain, Eastern China. Ed. WU Hong. xviii+586 pp.; Dec. 1995. China Forestry Publishing House, Beijing.]

この書物は，本誌の473ページに紹介した「浙江古田山昆虫和大型真菌」につづく報告書で，浙江省南部の庆元县にある百山祖自然保護区で，1993年から1995年にかけて実施された，総合調査の結果をまとめたものである．1995年12月の発行になっているが，実際に刊行されたのは翌年末のことらしく，わたしが現地で入手したのは今年の6月だった．

内容は2部に分かれ，第1部の総説はさらに6章（というより6論文）に区分されている．そのなかには，かならずしも首肯しかねる論議もあるが，第1章の百山祖自然概況は，わずか3ページのものながら便利である．

総計548ページにおよぶ第2部には，84名の著者によって執筆された107篇の論文と，巻末にまとめられた参考文献とが収められ，22目2203種の有翅昆虫類が記録されている．このうちに，9新属250新種が含まれ，新属はチャタテムシ目，チョウ目，ハエ目およびハチ目にわたっている．無翅類の昆虫が除外されていることや，チャタテムシ目（2新属69新種の記載を含む），クロバネキノコバエ科（2新属35新種の記載を含む）などの記述がとくに目立つことは，「浙江古田山昆虫和大型真菌」の場合と同様だが，キノコバエ科に17新種，オドリバエ科に15新種，アシナガバエ科に9新種が記載されているのも注目に値する．将来，これらの昆虫群の邦産種を研究するに際して，必読の文献となることは確かだろう．著者の所属は20以上の